

# PELL GRANT HURRICANE AND DISASTER RELIEF ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3169, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3169) to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Pell Grants who are adversely affected by a natural disaster.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3169) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. FRIST. Again, Mr. President, this is one of several bills we are addressing tonight that reflect the Senate's response to those who have been adversely affected by this disaster. The bill we passed was specifically related to Pell grants, giving the Secretary of Education the waiver authority for students who are eligible for Pell grants, those students who have been adversely affected.

# STUDENT GRANT HURRICANE AND DISASTER RELIEF ACT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3668, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3668) to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Federal student grant assistance who are adversely affected by a major disaster.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3668) was read the third time and passed.

# TANF EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3672, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3672) to provide assistance to families affected by Hurricane Katrina, through the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

# TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) RELIEF FOR STATES AFFECTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to raise some concerns about H.R. 3672, the TANF Emergency Response and Recovery Act of 2005 passed recently by the House of Representatives.

I regret that the House Ways and Means Committee did not have the benefit of the insights of those in Louisiana responsible for administering this critical Federal program. Because if they did, I think that the bill might have been drafted very differently. I very much appreciate the leadership allowing me this opportunity to state these concerns for the record and am hoping that we can work together in the days and weeks ahead from this point on to be certain that these concerns are addressed.

Hurricane Katrina has left the Southeastern part of Louisiana in a state of emergency which, by all accounts will have significant and wide spread impact on our State and local economy. As a result, larger than expected numbers of individuals will be left without employment and in need of the services and support provided by the TANF program. It is precisely to address these circumstances, although I am not sure Members anticipated a disaster of this magnitude that compelled Congress to create a contingency fund in the 1996 Act. The purpose of the contingency fund was for States to be able to access additional funds in a time of need. But instead of availing ourselves of the funds contained in the contingency fund to carry us through this unexpected downturn, the House bill limits the use of these funds for nonrecurring, short term benefits to persons displaced by this disaster. I am afraid that this narrow definition of eligibility will stand in the way of people in need getting the support they deserve. I am pleased that the Grassley-Baucus proposal would allow Louisiana access to these funds and allow my State to direct these funds to families in need.

In addition, it should be noted that while the House bill contemplates that some families affected by Hurricane Katrina will need some short term benefit that should be considered differently from regular welfare, it does not extend eligibility for these emergency benefits to all families in the affected States. I believe that we should extend this benefit to all families in need. I am pleased to note that the Grassley-Baucus welfare proposal would extend eligibility of "Hurricane

Katrina Emergency TANF Benefits" for over a year to affected families in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama regardless of their circumstances prior to this disaster.

I will raise my final point in the form of a question to my good friend, the Senator from Iowa, Chairman GRASSLEY. The House bill includes a provision that provides that no penalty may be imposed against any of the States of Louisiana, Mississippi or Alabama for failure to repay a loan made to a State before October 1, 2007. Given the current financial conditions, our Governor is concerned about the State's long term ability to pay a loan of this size back in such a short time. They have been assured that the intent was for this provision to serve as a grant and that there is no penalty should they be unable to fully reimburse the Federal Government. Is that the Senator's understanding?

Mr. GRASSLEY. I understand that the Senator would like assurances that her State would not be penalized for failure to reimburse the Federal Government for funds to the State from the Federal Loans for State Welfare Program. I would point out that the House bill includes a provision that provides that no penalty may be imposed against the States of Louisiana, Mississippi or Alabama for failure to repay a loan made to a State before October 1, 2007. This provision provides that there will be no penalty for loans made during that time.

Furthermore, I appreciate the other comments from the Senator from Louisiana. While I think that the House passed bill represents a good faith effort on behalf of the House, I agree that it does not go far enough and that the delegations of the affected States should have been consulted as this bill was assembled. The collaborative process that we relied on with Senators from States directly affected by Hurricane Katrina has been invaluable as we have worked to assemble the disaster relief package that Senator BAUCUS and I announced yesterday.

I also recognize that my colleagues are concerned that the Senate's position on this issue be appropriately represented in a conference with the House.

I want to assure my colleagues these welfare provisions will be addressed during a conference with the House and that the Senate's position on these welfare provisions will be vigorously represented.

Mr. FRIST. I appreciate the comments from my colleagues. I support the chairman, and I too assure colleagues that these welfare provisions will be fully litigated in a conference with the House on a health and welfare disaster relief package.

I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The bill (H.R. 3672) was read the third time and passed.

# RECOGNIZING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PE- DIATRICS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 204 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 204) recognizing the 75th anniversary of the American Academy of Pediatrics and supporting the mission and goals of the organization.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 204) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

## S. RES. 204

Whereas 2005 marks the 75th anniversary of the American Academy of Pediatrics (referred to in this resolution as the "Academy");

Whereas in 1930, 35 pediatricians founded the Academy to attain optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults;

Whereas in 2005, the Academy is the largest membership organization in the United States dedicated to child and adolescent health and well-being, with more than 60,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists belonging to its 59 chapters in the United States and 7 chapters in Canada;

Whereas, in addition to promoting good physical health, the Academy also promotes early childhood education, good mental health, reading, environmental health, safety, pediatric research, and the elimination of disparities in health care;

Whereas the Academy serves as a voice for the most vulnerable people in the United States by advocating for the needs of children with special health care needs, low-income families, victims of abuse and neglect, individuals in under-served communities, and the uninsured;

Whereas the Academy is dedicated to improving child health and well-being through numerous efforts and initiatives, including continuing medical education, the promotion of optimal standards for pediatric education, the authorship and dissemination of materials which advance its mission, and advocacy on improvements in child health;

Whereas the Academy promotes the use of evidence-based research and "best practices" to drive major improvements in child health and well-being, such as the use of immunizations to decrease the rates of infectious childhood diseases;

Whereas the Academy promotes the pediatric "medical home" as the most effective approach to guaranteeing the highest quality care for all children;

Whereas the Academy provides international leadership on child health issues, including translating child health materials into more than 40 languages;

Whereas Academy members have organized numerous child health initiatives at the State and community levels; and

Whereas, throughout its history, the Academy has been instrumental in the passage of several Federal child health laws, including poison prevention measures, the medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), Federal child safety seat initiatives, the State Children's Health Insurance Program under title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.), universal immunization, and the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act (Public Law 107-109); Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 75th anniversary of the American Academy of Pediatrics;

(2) supports the mission and goals of the Academy;

(3) commends the Academy for its commitment to attaining optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults;

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe this anniversary and support the Academy on behalf of the children of the United States; and

(5) encourages the Academy to continue striving to improve the health and well-being of all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults of the United States.

## REGARDING MANIFESTATIONS OF ANTI-SEMITISM BY UNITED NA- TIONS MEMBER STATES

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 240, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 240) expressing the sense of the Senate regarding manifestations of anti-Semitism by United Nations member states and urging action against anti-Semitism by United Nations officials, United Nations member states, and the Government of the United States, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 240) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

## S. RES. 240

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, approved by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, recognizes that "the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world";

Whereas United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379 (1975) concluded that "Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination" and the General Assembly, by a vote of 111 to 25, only revoked Resolution 3379 in 1991 in response to strong leadership by the United States and after Israel made its participation in the Madrid Peace Conference conditional upon repeal of the resolution;

Whereas during the 1991 session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, the Syrian Ambassador to the United Nations repeated the outrageous "blood libel" that Jews allegedly have killed non-Jewish children to make unleavened bread for Passover and, despite repeated interventions by the Governments of Israel and the United States, this outrageous lie was not corrected in the record of the Commission for many months;

Whereas in March 1997, the Palestinian observer at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights made the contemptible charge that the Government of Israel had injected 300 Palestinian children with HIV (the human immunodeficiency virus, the pathogen that causes AIDS) despite the fact that an Egyptian newspaper had printed a full retraction to its earlier report of the same charges, and the President of the Commission failed to challenge this baseless and false accusation despite the request of the Government of Israel that he do so;

Whereas Israel was denied membership in any regional grouping of the United Nations until the year 2000, which prevented it from being a candidate for any elected positions within the United Nations system until that time, and Israel continues to be denied the opportunity to hold a rotating seat on the Security Council and it is the longest-serving member of the United Nations never to have served on the Security Council although it has been a member of the organization for 56 years;

Whereas Israel continues to be denied the opportunity to serve as a member of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights because it has never been included in a slate of candidates submitted by a regional grouping, and Israel is currently the only member of the Western and Others Group in a conditional status limiting its ability to caucus with its fellow members of this regional grouping;

Whereas the United Nations has permitted itself to be used as a battleground for political warfare against Israel led by Arab states and others, and 6 of the 10 emergency sessions of the United Nations General Assembly have been devoted to criticisms of and attacks against Israel;

Whereas the goals of the 2001 United Nations World Conference Against Racism were undermined by hateful anti-Jewish rhetoric and anti-Israel political agendas, prompting both Israel and the United States to withdraw their delegations from the Conference;

Whereas in 2004, the United Nations Secretary General acknowledged at the first United Nations-sponsored conference on anti-Semitism, that: "It is clear that we are witnessing an alarming resurgence of this phenomenon in new forms and manifestations. This time, the world must not—cannot—be silent.";

Whereas in 2004, the United Nations General Assembly's Third Committee for the first time adopted a resolution on religious tolerance that includes condemnation of anti-Semitism and "recognized with deep concern the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious communities . . . including . . . anti-Semitism . . .";

Whereas in 2005, the United Nations held an unprecedented session to commemorate